

materials industry, Billy helped establish the bipartisan Congressional Recycling Caucus in 2004 to educate lawmakers regarding the economic and environmental benefits of recycling. Billy helped draft and enact the bipartisan RECYCLE Act, the first standalone piece of recycling legislation in history providing funding for public education and awareness programs to improve our country's recycling system. From 2004 to 2008, Billy also served as a judge of the White House Federal Recycling Initiative "Closing-the-Loop" Awards Program.

Billy has a proven record of helping members understand the importance of the recycling industry through Washington and district fly-ins, one-on-one meetings with congressional offices, and more. In 2021, his achievements led to his recognition by the National Institute for Lobbying and Ethics as one of the top 100 lobbyists in America for his demonstrated commitment to give back to the community and profession while adhering to the highest ethical standards.

Billy accepted this award along with several distinguished alumni including: Bryan K. Blinson—College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Dr. Philip Snider—College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Turan Duda—College of Design; Johnny L. Crow—College of Education; Quint M. Barefoot—College of Engineering; Dan Pleasant—College of Engineering; Mark Wyatt—College of Engineering; Amir S. Mehr—Poole College of Management; Kenneth O. Summerville—College of Natural Resources; Nora Ann Gardner—College of Sciences; Brian L. McMurray—Wilson College of Textiles; Sarah J. Ewing—College of Veterinary Medicine. John C. Borden was awarded the Ronnie Shavlik Award. Other awards were presented to Kevin M. Kroeger—Outstanding Young Alumnus; John F. Tesh Jr.—Award of Merit; and Ben Kinney—Meritorious Service Award.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to congratulate and recognize Billy as well as all the other Evening of the Stars award recipients for their outstanding accomplishments. They have all made—and continue to make—Wolfpack Nation proud.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF COLONEL PETER J. WEINA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Colonel Peter J. Weina, PhD, MD, FACP, FIDSA upon his retirement from the Office of Research Protections at the Defense Health Agency. Colonel Weina has served for 45 years in various federal capacities, and his dedicated service will be sorely missed.

Colonel Weina joined the United States Army right out of high school and completed both a bachelor's and a master's degree in zoology at the University of Wisconsin Madison. As a second lieutenant, he completed a Ph.D. in pathology and parasitology, also at UW Madison. After four years at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR), he entered medical school at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences. Mr. Weira then completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Tripler Army Medical Cen-

ter and a fellowship in infectious diseases at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Colonel Weina, a board-certified doctor in both internal medicine and infectious diseases, also holds a Certificate of Knowledge in clinical tropical medicine and travelers' health. From his time as Chief of Pharmacology at WRAIR and subsequently as Director of Viral Diseases, to his fellowships with the American College of Physicians and the Infectious Diseases Society of America, Colonel Weina has proven himself a competent leader and a measured presence in the medical field.

Over his illustrious career, Colonel Weina has published over 70 articles in peer-reviewed journals, five chapters in books, and two books of his own. He has worked to expand the availability and licensure of intravenous Artesunate, the first new anti-malarial drug since the advent of quinine over 300 years ago. In 2020, this life-saving treatment was licensed by the Food and Drug Administration.

Colonel Weina formerly headed the only College of American Pathologists-accredited leishmania diagnostics laboratory in the world. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the Federal CDC Silo Buster's Collaborative Award of Excellence in 2008, the Colonel George W. Hunter III Certificate in 2011, and the Bronze Star for Service. Colonel Weina's accolades extend far beyond these, as many have recognized his courage, passion, and dedication to bettering his community. He has combined the opportunity to serve his country with the chance to advance our medical knowledge and capabilities, and our nation is better off for his efforts.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Colonel Peter J. Weina for his 45 years of service to the United States. His contributions to our Nation are innumerable and his impact has been felt by countless Americans. He has been an inspiration and a mentor to the next generation of health professionals, and I wish him the best in his retirement and may happiness and success find him in all future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSS FULCHER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2022

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 544, S. 989.

RECOGNIZING LT. COL. ERIC VAN DE HEY

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2022

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifetime of service to the American people by Lieutenant Colonel Eric Van De Hey.

Lt. Col. Van De Hey is retiring after 35 years of selfless service to the United States. Since enlisting in 1987, he has dedicated his career in the U.S. Army to serving both his fel-

low soldiers and the United States. First and foremost, he has been a leader to many young soldiers, as he has trained soldiers at all levels of responsibility. He utilized his strong leadership skills while leading tactical platoons, strategic detachments, and serving in federal agencies. During his time in the Army, Lt. Col. Van De Hey served valiantly in many conflicts and missions including Operation Just Cause, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Desert Shield, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his service he earned numerous awards and commendations including the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Valorous Unit Citation, the Meritorious Unit Citation, and the Combat Action Badge. His multiple deployments and awards are another clear example of his impressive dedication to serving our country.

Throughout his career, Lt. Col. Van De Hey has played a significant role in ensuring the safety of our troops while leading our military into the next generation of warfighting. As the Executive Officer in charge of Test Parachutists, he ensured that Army parachutes were safe and reliable for our service members. Lt. Col. Van De Hey was also responsible for overseeing great technological advancements for the military, such as research into self-driving cars and the use of satellite images to monitor humanitarian crises. It is evident through these accolades that Lt. Col. Van De Hey has committed his career to serving the United States of America and the Army.

As Lt. Col. Van De Hey returns to private life, it is my honor to recognize his years of service in the United States military. I invite all members of this body to join me in congratulating Lt. Col. Eric Van De Hey and his family on his retirement. Our Nation is safer because of Lt. Col. Van De Hey's unwavering service and commitment to his country.

RECOGNIZING THE 2022 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL'S SEEFELDT AWARDEES

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2022 Prince William County Arts Council's Seefeldt Awardees. These Awards for Arts Excellence were established nearly two decades ago in honor of Kathleen Kenna Seefeldt, a former Chairwoman of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors. These awards recognize and celebrate the artists, art organizations, volunteers, educators, and businesses that build upon the foundation in which Ms. Seefeldt's legacy of supporting the cultural arts.

Kathleen Seefeldt moved to Prince William County in 1970 and her deep love for her newfound community inspired her to run for office. She was elected to the Board and served as the Occoquan District Supervisor for fifteen years before being elected the first at-large chair of the Board in 1991. Her two terms as chair led to Prince William County's economic and cultural growth, and her emphasis on incorporating the arts has helped Prince William become the thriving community it is today.

This honorary award in her name celebrates the many artistic achievements in Prince William County. This year's honorees have done

tremendous work to continue Kathleen Seefeldt's legacy. These awardees have tirelessly dedicated themselves to the promotion and expansion of the artistic elements that make Prince William County so special.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2022 Prince William County Arts Council's Seefeldt Award Recipients:

Lynn Godino, Outstanding Volunteer in the Arts

Lukman Ahmad, Outstanding Patron of the Arts

James Villani, Outstanding Individual Artist
Manassas Ballet Theatre, Outstanding Arts Organization

Prince William Living, Outstanding Business Supporter of the Arts

Dr. Laura Cherry, Outstanding Arts Educator

This celebration is also of particular significance in that it also serves as the 30th anniversary of the Prince Williams County Arts Council's founding. For three decades now, the Arts Council has celebrated the artistic accomplishments of our community. Their work has kept Prince William County a wonderful place to live and work, and has attracted artistic talent from all over, helping expand our diverse community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the 2022 Prince William County Arts Council's Seefeldt Awardees. These talented, expressive, and dedicated individuals have committed themselves to the preservation of an admirable legacy and have made their community more beautiful at every turn along the way.

RECOGNIZING THE AFRICAN AMERICAN VETERANS MONUMENT IN BUFFALO, NEW YORK

HON. CHRIS JACOBS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2022

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the Western New York Community in commending the honorable service of African American veterans throughout the history of the United States military.

The recently unveiled African American Veterans Monument in Buffalo, New York, highlights the contributions made by African American service members to our country. These contributions cannot be understated.

I commend all who supported the development and construction of this project, including the Erie County Chapter of the Links for taking the steps necessary to honor these veterans. This unique monument now stands as a symbol and reminder on the Buffalo waterfront to all Western New Yorkers of the sacrifices that these brave individuals made to preserve our freedoms.

From the Revolutionary War onwards, 2.1 million African Americans served this country with unconditional valor. Over 90 African Americans have been awarded the Medal of Honor, our nation's preeminent military commendation. Out of admiration for these esteemed veterans, many of Western New York's community leaders banded together to demonstrate our thanks for their sacrifices—a gesture that many of us believe is long overdue.

The symbolism undergirding this monument uniquely pairs with the traits displayed by the generations of African American men and women who have served our country. Located at the Erie County Naval & Military Park, the monument consists of 12 pillars representing the 12 military conflicts in which these veterans demonstrated their strength, courage, and patriotism. The top of each pillar is illuminated by a beacon of light, referencing the practice that active-duty military families used to guide their loved ones home. These illuminations will glow eternally, along with our nation's everlasting appreciation to its African American servicemembers.

We must continue to recognize and commemorate those who sacrificed on behalf of our nation and fought on our country's many historic battlefields. Our selfless and courageous African American veterans of Western New York and the greater United States will forever be remembered within our local community. It is my honor to represent these veterans, along with the members of our community who crafted this historic monument.

HONORING JAMES HOLMES

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2022

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifetime of achievement of Mr. James Holmes.

Following decades of service to the Culpeper community and 35 years of service to the Culpeper County Electoral Board, Mr. Holmes is stepping down as current Chair of the Board at the end of this year.

Growing up in Culpeper, James Holmes attended George Washington Carver School and was among the first integrated classes at Culpeper High School.

Mr. Holmes' determination to improve our Commonwealth for future generations of Virginians brought him back to Culpeper after he graduated Cum Laude from Virginia Union University and earned his JD from Howard Law School.

A licensed ordained Baptist minister who has pastored in Culpeper for decades, Mr. Holmes has held many positions with the Wayland Blue Ridge Baptist Association.

From his service on the Electoral Board to casting an Electoral Vote in 2008 for our first Black president, James Holmes has demonstrated a commitment to civic engagement and elevating the voices of Virginians within his community.

Mr. Holmes has touched many lives throughout his career—as President of Culpeper Housing and Shelter Services, President of Culpeper County United Way, President of the Culpeper County Equalization Board, and as a caring member of his community.

Today, I thank James Holmes for his commitment to progress, equality, and community empowerment.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF LT. COL. DAN WAGNER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 23, 2022

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable career of Lieutenant Colonel Dan Wagner upon his retirement from the United States Army after 20 years of selfless service to our Nation. Lt. Col Dan Wagner has made immeasurable contributions in service to our great Nation.

Lt. Col Wagner was spurred to action by the tragic events of September 11, 2001 and joined the Army shortly thereafter. He has since had an exemplary military career. Over the course of his service, his assignments included three years of tours in Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa, and other areas with both conventional and special operations units.

Prior to his retirement this summer, he served as a legislative liaison for U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) in Washington, D.C. Lt. Col Wagner focused on developing and executing legislative strategies to secure support for a \$12 billion budget, including appropriations and authorizations for Joint Special Operations, Special Mission Units, and Intelligence.

On behalf of special operators for operational and programmatic issues of Congressional interest, Lt. Col Wagner coordinated with several offices in the Department of Defense, including the Offices of the Secretary of Defense, Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense Special Access Programs Coordination Office, and Geographic Combat Commanders.

Using his extensive experience with the inner workings of the Pentagon, Geographic Combatant Commands, and the National Security Council, Lt. Col Wagner served as a senior representative for USSOCOM to the Central Intelligence Agency on national security and counterterrorism issues. He worked to revamp policies both global and internal, as well as to coordinate de-confliction and synchronization efforts.

Lt. Col Wagner served on the Army Staff in Legislative Affairs where he maintained the intelligence portfolio for the Secretary of the Army. He also served in the personal office of Rep. Mike Rogers, Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Prior to joining the Army, Lt. Col Wagner was a small business owner in Southeastern Ohio. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations from DePaul University and a Masters in Legislative Affairs from George Washington University. Additionally, Lt. Col Wagner completed the Manage Mentor Program for Business, Management and Marketing at Harvard University.

Lt. Col Wagner is a passionate and selfless leader who has devoted his career to ensuring military operators receive the intelligence and support they need to keep our Nation safe. Madam Speaker, I ask that my fellow colleagues please join me in thanking Lt. Col Wagner and his family for their service as they enter the next chapter of their lives.